

ABSTRACT

Protection is provided for software and data in single and multiple microprocessor systems, including, but not limited to, local area networks (LANs), wide area networks (WANs), backplane connected architectures, etc. The data can include databases, streaming data and code. The protection is provided by employing, singly or in combination, obscurant IC coatings, tamper detection and response circuitry, multiple component modules and software code encryption to prevent software from being stolen or altered. The software or data is protected during transport, during downloading into a processor or processor network, and also during execution and storage of code or a database within a host system. The data product resulting from processing within the protecting equipment may be encrypted to be sent safely to external locations where it may be stored or de-encrypted for further use.

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